

## Message Text

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51

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 090038

R 261216Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9928

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0532

EXDIS

PASS OPIC

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: TAW: LETTERS OF CONTRACT EXTENSION

REF: STATE 49728

1. RE PARA 9 REFTTEL, UNABLE AT THIS POINT SHED MUCH FURTHER LIGHT ON GENESIS OF AND AUTHORITY BEHIND SIWO LETTERS OF OCTOBER 22, 1973, AND JANUARY 11, 1974, IN EFFECT EXTENDING TAW CONTRACT.

2. WHILE SIWO MAY HAVE ACTED ENTIRELY ON HIS OWN WITH OR WITHOUT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM WOOD (LUSAKA 354), DELAY IN DELIVERY OF OCTOBER 22 LETTER UNTIL DECEMBER SUGGESTS SIWO HAD TAKEN TIME TO SECURE SOME KIND OF AUTHORIZATION. AT THE TIME THE LETTER WAS EXECUTED IN OCTOBER, GRZ GENERALLY IN UNCERTAIN STATE DUE PENDING ELECTIONS AND PROSPECTIVE GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP CHANGES; FEW DECISIONS WERE BEING MADE OR CARRIED OUT. IT CONCEIVABLE THIS CIRCUMSTANCE HELD UP LETTER AND ONLY AFTER CABINET REORGANIZED DECEMBER 10 DID SIWO RECEIVE AUTHORITY FROM NEW MINISTER SOKO (WHO REPLACED MULIKITA) TO DELIVERY LETTER. SOKO, WITH DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR TAW CONTRACT NEW TO HIM, MAY NOT HAVE REALIZED FULL IMPLICATIONS; OR PERHAPS HE SIMPLY AN ALLY OF TAW PROPONENTS. ALSO POSSIBLE, BUT UNLIKELY IN OUR VIEW, LETTER WAS BACK-DATED IN SOKO/SIWO ATTEMPT FIGHT REAR-GUARD

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BATTLE AGAINST CANCELLATION DECISION.

3. SAVAGE AND BRIGATTI INDICATED TO US MARCH 20 (LUSAKA 511)  
TAW'S RENEWED RELIANCE ON SIWO LETTERS RESULTED FROM SIWO  
UNDERTAKING TO STAND UP AND VOUCH FOR THEIR JUSTIFICATION AND  
VALIDITY. IF TRUE, THERE COULD, OF COURSE, BE SEVERAL  
EXPLANATIONS FOR SIWO READINESS TO TAKE THIS STANCE: E.G.,  
HE IN TOO DEEP AND MUST GAMBLE ALL, HE NOW HAS BACKING AND  
ENCOURAGEMENT OF INFLUENTIAL PRO-TAW FORCES, OR THE LETTERS  
WERE INDEED TRANSMITTED WITH WHOLLY ADEQUATE  
AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL.

4. UNFORTUNATELY, WE REMAIN FOR THE MOMENT VERY MUCH IN  
REALM OF SPECULATION WHILE CONTINUING ATTEMPTS TO UNCOVER  
THE FACTS. THE ONLY THING APPEARING REASONABLY CLEAR FOR  
SOME TIME IS THAT TAW CONTRACT IS CAUGHT UP NOT ONLY  
IN CONTROVERSY OVER ITS MERITS BUT ALSO IN A POLITICAL  
STRUGGLE. POSITIONS OF AT LEAST SOME INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED  
ON BOTH SIDES COULD WELL BE AFFECTED.  
NELSON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED OPIC.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRUCKING COMPANIES, CONTRACTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LUSAKA00532  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**TAGS:** EFIN, BDIS, ZA, TAW  
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